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MONTANA GUARD

OCTOBER 1976

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Guard History Published

"The Montana Militia" a comprehensive history of volunteer forces from the Treasure State (1867-1976) is finally off the press. Members of the 103d PID are distributing copies to Montana Guard members as the volumes are received from the bindery. Most prepublication orders should be filled within the next month, according to author Sp5 Richard Lacey. Guard members may still order copies of "The Montana Militia" by sending a \$3.00 check, payable to the 103d History Account, to Lt. Mickey Nelson, c/o 103d PID, P.O. Box 1157, Helena, Montana 59601. Along with your check send your mailing address so that we can see the book is mailed to you.

The money to print "The Montana Militia" is not coming from Guard funds and this is the reason for the price.



THE ENLISTED MAN'S DILEMMA

"The Dying Guard" by Gary Hull in the last issue of your paper really hit the nail on the head. For those of us with "over six" the National Guard has had something to offer -- extra money, a chance to serve the country, or just a chance for a good time at the NCO Club.

I, for one, don't mind telling people why I'm still in the Guard and I suppose, in a way, that's part of the recruiting and retention. But I think it goes beyond that -- and beyond the guys who are official recruiters.

Three of us were together the other day talking about our time in the Guard.

We all had six or more years, and in various units. The one place where we agreed life became bearable or unbearable in our units was with the CO. CO's can be the cyclical plague that may descend upon a unit or they can be the mortar which cements an outfit together.

Talk to a fellow who wants out or was happy to get out, and if you start to dig very deep you're apt to discover something about the "S.O.B. officer" who made this drill, that summer camp, or an entire year, real hell.

Sure there are people who will resent anybody who makes them train, or do something they'd rather not do; but a lot of it isn't in what the CO says has to be done, it's in the way he goes about

it. My MOS is First Cook and I've served under several CO's, but I can remember one in particular who really gave me the feeling he cared about my section.

This particular officer demanded a clean kitchen, would complain about something if it didn't taste right -- that's fine. But I remember a windy, dusty, June day in the deserts south of Boise when we couldn't get the cook tent up to save our souls. He was there driving stakes, holding ropes, working and getting dirty with the rest of us trying to get set up so the entire unit could eat.

Then I remember another summer and another CO who stayed in the BOQ at Gowan field and flew out to where we were camped each morning, just in time for breakfast. I think the soles of his boots were all that got dirty that summer.

What I'm trying to say is this: I agree with Gary Hull. If the Montana National Guard is dying it's not because the recruiters are slipping up. It's because the entire unit, a bunch of units, *from the top down*, don't have anything to offer in the way of esprit de corps.

If you want to know what kind of a unit this company or that company really is, don't look at the TOE chart, look at the CO.

FIRING LINE

Gripe, complain, bitch, get it off your chest. The American soldier has always found something that needs improvement since the heat failed at Valley Forge. The forum may be as restricted as a tentmate, or as broad as "Taking it to the I.G." Have you got something to say? The *Montana Guard* would like to give you a place to air it.

Run your idea through the "Firing Line." Use it like you would any Letters to the Editor column, but confine the topics to things concerning the Guard.

"Firing Line" can serve a variety of purposes -- if you have a complaint, air it; if you are tired of what's going on but no one seems to give a hang, let's hear about it.

But there can be another side too -- how about the member of your outfit who deserved some recognition and didn't get it; maybe a compliment for a CO who has really made your stint in the National Guard worthwhile (something like the letter below which we recently received.)

Did you send something in to the *Montana Guard* and we didn't publish it -- go ahead, try us again and complain about it; let us know we goofed.

In short, we hope the "Firing Line" will provide Montana Guard members with a rostrum from which they can speak on whatever they think needs saying. All we ask is this:

1. Keep the letter between 250 and 500 words.
2. Sign it - if you want, we will *not* use your name in print, but we need to know the item is from a bonafide Guard member.

Address letters to: 103d Public Information Detachment, P.O. Box 1157, Helena, Mt. 59601.

Trick or Treat





O. C. S.

IN SHIP SHAPE

Like men of yore who went down to the sea in ships, 11 members of the current OCS class tested the theory that given rope, a bit of wood, plus bows and tarp from a duce-and-a-half you can build a boat. It worked, providing not only a good learning experience, but also some fun and comradery.

TO THE WATER



OH, IT FLOATS



FIND ME A BOW

AND

A TARP





MAJOR WANTS TO BE (ATTORNEY) GENERAL

Major James T. (Tom) Harrison, Jr. is the Republican candidate for Attorney General in Montana. Major Harrison has served for 16 years in the Montana National Guard and most recently graduated from the Command and General Staff Course of Judge Advocate School at Charlottesville, Virginia.

Harrison is a 37-year-old attorney in Helena. He has served eight years in the Montana Legislature: three terms in the House, including one term as Majority Leader and one term in the Senate. He and his wife, Carol, have three children. Tom is the son of retiring Chief Justice James T. Harrison of the Montana Supreme Court.

Major Harrison was born in Glasgow, Montana, attended public school at Malta and graduated from the University of Montana Law School in 1964. He is a partner in the firm of Harrison, Loendorf and Poston in Helena.

The native Montanan is a member of the American Bar Association, the American Trial Lawyers Association, Montana Bar Association, First Judicial Bar Association and most recently served as president of the Montana Trial Lawyers Association. Harrison served two years as a Special Assistant Attorney General for Montana before entering private practice and served as counsel to the Montana Water Board for six years.

GOOD LUCK! MAJOR HARRISON!

"PRIORITY ATTENTION" TO RESERVE BENEFITS

By **LARRY CARNEY**

Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Army Secretary Martin R. Hoffmann says the Army will give "priority attention" in its FY 78 budget request to getting reenlistment and enlistment bonuses and tuition aid programs established for members of the Reserve Components.

In a memorandum to the Army staff, Hoffmann said he also would like to see a more reliable equipment delivery system established for the National Guard and Army Reserve.

"Equipment seems to be always on the way but never arrives. We should try to establish a system whereby Reserve Component commanders can at least be informed of when — perhaps a range of time — they can expect to get their equipment," he has told Army staffers.

Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Paul D. Phillips says that because of Hoffmann's concern, the staff is developing programs to include in its FY 78 budget request.

The FY 78 budget request will include money to:

- Establish a tuition assistance program for career guardsmen and reservists. Sen. Strom Thurmond (D-S.C.) also introduced legislation to authorize the federal government to pick up 50 to 75 percent of the tuition costs of guardsmen and reservists enrolled in colleges or schools.

- Establish an enlistment bonus program similar to \$1500 and \$2000 programs of the active Army. The bonus would be paid only to people enlisting in a skill considered critical in the guard or reserve.

- Establish a reenlistment bonus for those who reenlist in a skill needed in the reserves.

- Strengthen the Reserve Component recruiter force.

- Provide additional money for RC advertising.

- Give the guard and reserve additional full-time technicians for clerical and maintenance jobs.

- Authorize additional training assemblies for members of high-priority units.

- Accelerate the improvement of guard and reserve training facilities such as ranges and barracks. Armory construction would also be sped up under the plan.

The Pentagon also is considering legislative proposals which would reduce the enlistment period for prior-service people; give tax exemptions to drilling members of the guard and reserve; remove the retirement point ceiling for reservists; give additional post exchange, commissary and medical benefits to reservists; extend VA home loan benefits to reservists, and permit drilling members to retire at an age under 60.

Many of the proposals now being considered by the Army have been considered previously. "The major difference," an official said, "is that Hoffmann has told the Army staff that in FY 78 the Army wants to put its money where its mouth is."

103rd



103d Public Information Detachment

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Sp5 Barry Wirth
Sp4 Theodore Lutgen
PFC Loren Oelkers
Pvt Bruce A. Luke

2nd SQUADRON AT A. T.



LETS GET GOING

The Second Squadron of the 163d Armored Cavalry of the Montana National Guard recently completed summer camp on the desert south of Boise, Idaho.

Summer camp had been scheduled in July, but was cancelled and rescheduled for September. The heat was not a problem as in years past, but lack of it, as the Troops in the Second Squadron had to contend with a lot of rain and cold weather.

This years training was oriented more towards individual training, with the different elements of each unit spending

a lot of time on different ranges going thru instructions, live firing exercises and land navigation courses.

Units from Kalispell, Whitefish, Butte, Dillon, Missoula, Hamilton, Anaconda, Havre and Chinook participated in the Second Squadron annual training.

Regular Army evaluators said, "The Montana National Guard members were doing very well on all field exercises."

For the first time women Guard members trained in the field alongside their male counterparts.



GOTTA REST

FIX THAT TIRE



TOTE THAT SHELL



SILENCE

WOMEN IN THE FIELD

Sp5 Bernie Bernier - Butte



Sp5 Pat Curran - Kalispell



The Second Squadron summer camp recently completed had a few strange faces, those of Sp5 Bernice Bernier, Sp5 Pat Curran, Pfc Laura Connors and Pfc Mary Sorell. For the first time in the Montana Guard, women were allowed to train in the field along side their male counterparts. These women performed

various functions ranging from jeep driving to personnel clerks to assistants to the mess stewards (a nice name for KP). The women were quizzed as to being in the field and the overwhelming response seemed to be in favor of being out with the troops and being busy.



PFC Laura Connors - Butte



PFC Mary Sorell - Kalispell



COMMENCE FIRING



A GENERAL'S VISIT TO THE FIELD



THIS IS HOW TO FIX THIS WEAPON



GOPHER GETTER



JOHN WAYNE



STOP WHILE I SHOOT



**WHEE,
THATS
LOUD!**

MONTANAN WINS RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP



SFC Dale Fosjord of Huntley won the individual aggregate national rifle championship at the Winston P. Wilson matches at Little Rock, Ark., earlier this month.

Fosjord, a Billings letter carrier, scored 775 of a possible 800 points to outdistance more than 400 National Guardsmen from throughout the nation.

The matches are the national championship for the National Guard.

He is a member of State Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Montana Army National Guard.

Fosjord also took second in the 200-yard standing matches and in the 300-yard master class rapid fire.

Fosjord, who has been a member of the National Guard since 1958, has been firing competitively since 1965 and is a member of the President's Hundred, a select group of the nation's top 50 civilian and military riflemen.

He also won the Sixth Army Championships and won the Distinguished Badge.

Montana Wins Montana-Idaho Golf Tourney

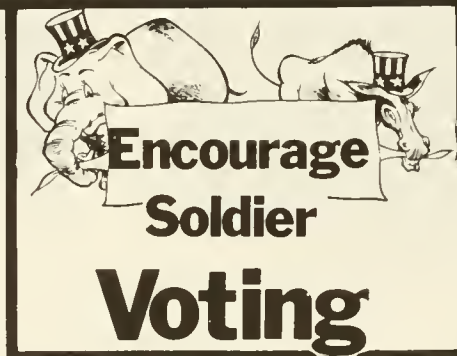
The 12th Annual Montana-Idaho National Guard Gold Tournament was held at the Highlands Golf Course, Pocatello, Idaho, during the weekend of 6, 7 & 8, August, 1976.

The Montana team came home with the trophy. The win was a shock to all concerned as Montana was trailing by seven (7) points at the close of Saturday's play. However, the team went into training Saturday night, got the adrenalin boiling and demonstrated superb talent on the course Sunday to come up with a fine 60-54, come-from-behind victory.

The medalist was our own Doug Fullerton who displayed cool, unknown talents.

The 1977 Tournament will be hosted by Montana. A site and date have to be selected, but ample notification will be afforded once these selections have been announced.

This was a fun weekend for all 19 Guard members and their wives who participated. Idaho treated us well, both socially and on the golf course. Let's demolish Idaho again in 1977.



A WORD FROM CHIEF OF N. G. BUREAU

The Bicentennial Year is a fitting time to announce the selection of October 7th each year as the official birthday anniversary for the Army and Air National Guard.

The date marks the organizational anniversary of the nation's oldest units, those of Massachusetts Bay Colony -- the East, North and South Regiments -- dating from 1636.

The anniversary date will serve as an appropriate time to honor the National

Guard and its members in each State and to employ the day to emphasize recruiting-retention or other special activities.

The National Guard Bureau and the National Guard Association selected the date in a joint decision to honor the formal establishment of the militia 340 years ago.

The tradition of reliance of our nation on our citizen-soldier is older than the American Republic and grows daily in responsibility under the "Total Force" policy.

From early beginnings, contained within a system built on English common law with ancient military morals and ethics stemming from the Scandinavians, the National Guard has evolved into a responsive, modern reserve force on land and in the air.

It is with great pleasure, I extend the first "Happy Birthday" greetings to the National Guard, Army and Air, in each State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Maj. Gen. LaVern E. Weber
Chief, National Guard Bureau

GET OUT AND VOTE

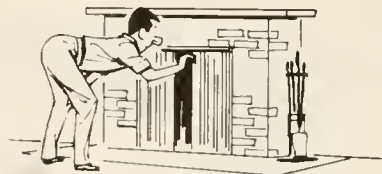
STATE HEADQUARTERS HOLDS ANNUAL PICNIC



HOME FIRE SAFETY QUIZ

IN THE KITCHEN...

- | | YES | NO |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Are curtains, dish towels, paper and other flammable items kept away from the range? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2. Do you use only cooking appliances labeled by the American Gas Association or Underwriters' Laboratories? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3. Are range exhaust hood and ductwork clean of grease? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4. Are circuits adequate for heat-producing appliances, such as iron, rotisserie, toaster? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5. Do you have an extinguisher suitable for grease and electric fires close at hand? | ☐ | ☐ |



DON'T FORGET ATTIC, CLOSETS, AND STORAGE ROOMS

- | | YES | NO |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 14. Do you keep oily polishing and waxing rags in tight metal containers? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 15. Are you using only nonflammable cleaning fluids? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 16. Do you avoid accumulations of paper and combustible materials? | ☐ | ☐ |

AND NOW... THE LIVING ROOM, DINING ROOM AND BEDROOMS

- | | YES | NO |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 6. Is the spark screen on the fireplace always closed? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7. Is electric wiring in your home adequate to handle the load? (One test: if TV picture shrinks when the furnace or refrigerator turns on, wiring may be inadequate) | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8. Is there sufficient space for air circulation around your TV or hi-fi? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 9. Are there plenty of wall electrical outlets, so octopus connections are unnecessary? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 10. Are there enough large ash trays? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 11. Are matches and lighters kept out of the reach of children, including those long fireplace matches on the hearth or mantel? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 12. Do all electrical appliances bear the label of Underwriters' Laboratories? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 13. Is a metal tray used under fondue pots and chafing dishes to protect against overflow of blazing alcohol? | ☐ | ☐ |

NOW, DOWN TO THE BASEMENT AND WORKSHOP

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 17. Are paint thinners, paints and solvents kept in their original containers? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 18. Are combustible materials kept away from the furnace, water heater and other sources of heat? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 19. Are the furnace, heaters, vents and chimneys inspected and serviced regularly? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 20. Are fuses of the proper size for the circuits they protect? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 21. Are the dryer lint trap and vent kept clean? | ☐ | ☐ |

ADD UP YOUR ANSWERS

How many of the questions in this list were checked in the "No" column? One or two? Your home is pretty fire-safe. If you had five or six, you're risking the safety of your family. If you had more than six, you'd better take action—now!

MYERS JOINS 103D STAFF

Sp5 Rex C. Myers joins the 103d Public Information Detachment and the staff of the *montana guard* with this issue. He has rejoined the National Guard as a part-time job and for a chance to further broaden his publication experiences.

To the 103d PID, Sp5 Myers brings his expertise in writing and composition. He received his Master of Arts and Ph.D. degrees in history from the University of Montana, and has written a semi-weekly newspaper column as well as published four books and a dozen articles.

At the present time Rex is Reference Librarian at the Montana Historical Society. He and his wife Trinda moved to Helena in early 1975, and, along with their three year old son, are enjoying both the community and surrounding country.

Sp5 Myers is back in the Montana National National Guard on a "Try One" basis after previous service with Troop N (Air) of the 163d, and the 852d MP Company out of Yuma, Arizona. He notes that the 103d is the first unit he has belonged to which is located in the same town where he lived.

ATTENTION SHOOTERS

Have a steady eye and a firm grip? Contact your local AST about the small bore pistol matches that will begin in November.

Halloweens Come and Go, But the World Enjoys its Year-Round

MONSTERS

By Phillip R. Smith, Jr.

Witches, goblins and mysterious creatures are supposed to prowl only on Halloween, yet two monsters in parts of Europe and America have foregone tradition and are now appearing, off and on, all year 'round.

Although the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers admits to the possible existence of Sasquatch—Big Foot of the Pacific Northwest, the British government is reluctant to talk about Nessie—the Loch Ness monster in Scotland. When questioned about the subject recently, the British Embassy in Washington, D.C., referred requests for information to a London office.

APE-LIKE CREATURE

Admittedly, the Army Corps of Engineers' report sidesteps the monster issue with such words as "alleged" and "legendary", but the Corps' Atlas says, "Information from alleged sightings, tracks and other experiences conjures up the picture of an ape-like creature standing between 8 and 12 feet tall, weighing in excess of 1,000 pounds, and taking strides of up to 6 feet. Plaster casts have been made in tracks showing a large squarish foot 14 to 24 inches in length and 5 to 10 inches in breadth. Reported to feed on vegetation and some meat, the Sasquatch is covered with long hair, except for the face and hands, and has a distinctly human-like form." The atlas also points out that alleged Sasquatch hair samples inspected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation laboratories resulted in

the conclusion that no such hair exists on any human or presently-known animal for which such data exists. The Pacific Northwest is the area for most Sasquatch activity, with Washington leading in the number of reports of tracks or sightings since 1968. However, reports of Sasquatch-like creatures have been heard of from as far away as the Pamir Mountains in the U.S.S.R., and in South America.

The Corps statement concludes by saying, "If Sasquatch is purely legendary, the legend is likely to be a long time in dying. On the other hand, if Sasquatch does exist, then with the Sasquatch hunts being mounted and the increasing human population it seems likely that some hard evidence may soon be in hand. . . ."

That hard evidence may already be in hand concerning another unknown creature across the Atlantic in Great Britain. A recent scientific expedition, financed in large part by organizations in the United States, has come up with conclusive findings that the Loch Ness monster does exist. This would corroborate the testimony of St. Columba, who helped bring Christianity to the Highlands of Scotland in the 6th Century, and the hundreds of witnesses to sightings of that elusive creature in the following centuries. Legend has it that St. Columba personally fought one of the Loch Ness monsters.

In recent years, with the increase of tourism in the area prompted by stories about the monster, sightings have increased. Mr. Frank Searle first sighted one of the monsters while on a vacation in the area during the 1960s and was so captivated that he made his permanent home on the shores of the lake. In the last two decades, Mr. Searle has kept a dawn to dusk watch, resulting in at least eighteen sightings of the monster, as well as several clear photographs

UNDERWATER DINOSAUR

Various theories during the past few decades have been proposed as to what Nessie might be. Some have suggested that the monster could be a form of giant slug, mollusk, eel or long-necked seal of some variety. It appears that the monster is a descendant of some form of dinosaur which, long considered extinct, has

adapted itself over the centuries to living and breeding in the dark and deep waters of the mysterious Loch Ness.

Scientists may someday find and even bring to captivity a Sasquatch or Nessie. Perhaps the cause of science would be advanced by such a feat, but it will be a sad day for those who savor the mystery of creatures from the unknown

Big Foot rendered here according to an artist's conception, may be more than legendary creatures. Current studies say the hard evidence of their existence may soon be in hand.





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MONTANA GUARD

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STATE DOCUMENTS

House Acts

Income Tax, Retirement Bills

Two pieces of legislation important to all members of the Montana Army National Guard have been favorably acted upon in the current session of the Montana House of Representatives.

HB587, which would allow members of the Guard to participate in the state retirement program, has passed third reading in the House. The vote was 78-15 in favor of the legislation. It now goes to the Senate where no major obstacles to passage are seen.

Under the plan members of the Army and Air Guard would be allowed to participate on a voluntary basis as part time state employees in the retirement program. Participants would contribute six percent of their pay into the system. The state would then match the six percent for a total of 12 percent.

If a member leaves the Guard before participating for five years, he or she can withdraw any money paid in. If the member leaves after five years of participation, they receive the six percent paid in, plus they receive an interest payment on the money paid in.

Those who stay on the plan until retirement would receive a monthly check from the state at age 55.

The second measure will have a more immediate impact on Guard members if it is passed.

That is a \$1,000 state income tax deduction. HB 168 would allow a Guard member to exempt the first \$1,000 from state income tax. Income covered would include weekend drill pay, annual training pay, and pay from any state active duty callups. Full time technicians monthly pay would not be included.

This measure faces a tougher road than the retirement bill. Last January the House Taxation Committee voted do not pass on the measure. However, after some redrafting to exclude technicians pay, the committee voted 13-3 with one ab-

stention to pass out the measure. At press time the bill was to go to the full House.

This is the first time such a measure has ever been favorably reported out of a House committee.

Montana Guardsman Wins Expert Infantryman Badge

Second Lieutenant Randolph L. Job, Company C(-) 5th Battalion 19th Special Forces, Missoula, was the only contestant out of 42 to win the Expert Infantryman Badge.

For the first time Infantry Officers Basic Course students competed for the badge at Fort Benning. Individuals had to qualify expert with the M-16 rifle, score at least 400 on the PT test complete a land navigation course and make a 12 mile forced march carrying full field gear in three hours or less.

Individuals must complete 31 performance tests satisfactorily in four categories: weapons, tactics, leadership and combat support.



Enlisted Association to Meet in Kalispell

The Guard Belongs and you belong in the Guard's Enlisted Association. The 6th Annual Enlisted Association Convention in Kalispell, April 22-24, 1977 highlights the Association's activities throughout the year.

If you are looking for three days of fun and good times, this year's convention at the Outlaw Inn in Kalispell will be the place. If you have questions, contact SGT Denny Eickert, Co-Chairman for the Convention, P.O. Box 1179, Kalispell, Mt. 59901

Officers to Gather in Electric City

The Montana National Guard Officers Association will hold its annual convention in Great Falls beginning April 29th.

The three day affair will be at the Heritage Inn. LTC Martinsen of the Air National Guard is the convention project officer this

FATHER OF MT ARNG AVIATION RETIRES



**ENSIGN BARFKNECHT --
1945**

After 35 years of service and 7000 hours of flying time, Col. James F. Barfknecht retired from the Montana Army National Guard, 13 January, 1977.

Col. Barfknecht was director of Planning, Operations, Training and Security for the Montana Guard and plans to begin his retirement with a vacation in Hawaii.

James Barfknecht was born in Melstone, Montana. Upon graduation from Gallatin County High School in 1938, he attended Montana State College, then spent 3 years in the Navy during World War II. He returned to college and earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1949.

In April, 1945, Lt. Barfknecht married Virginia Howell of Bozeman. They have three children: Kay, James, and Dee Ann.

This will not be Col. Barfknecht's first time in Hawaii. In 1943, he began his military career there as a Navy pilot aboard the carrier U.S.S. Yorktown.

Ensign Barfknecht participated in several significant naval battles in the Pacific, including the Battle of Leyte Gulf. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross with Gold Star, the Air Medal with Gold Star, Asiatic-Pacific and Philippine Liberation Ribbons, and a Presidential Citation.

After discharge from active duty on 28 November 1945, Barfknecht changed uniforms to become a Lieutenant in the 163rd Infantry at Bozeman, thus becoming the first aviator in the Montana Army National Guard.

To this distinction, Col. Barfknecht added the honor of flying the first helicopter in the state. In April of 1950, he received the Army Aviators Badge and on 9 September 1965, he became the first Montana Guardsman to receive the Master Army Aviator Award, signifying 3000 hours of flying time and over 15 years of service.

Other awards and citations during his career include the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 10 year device, and the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal.

Col. Barfknecht was instrumental in organizing Montana's Aviation Program. He commanded both HHQ CO. 163rd INF. Regiment and the Aviation Company of the 163rd Armored Cavalry.

For a total of 9 years, Barfknecht served as the Staff Aviation Officer. He was the State Maintenance Officer for five years, Technician Personnel Officer and G-1 for three years and then Plans, Operations, Training and Security Director since 1 July 1976.

For his outstanding performance as Chairman of the Maintenance Manning Criteria Committee, Col. Barfknecht received a special letter of commendation in January of 1974.

Barfknecht's interest and devotion to aviation extend beyond the boundaries of Montana -- to Washington, D.C., where he spent almost one year of active duty service assisting other states in the organization and operation of their aviation programs.

Certainly, Barfknecht's career leaves a lasting contribution to aviation and the Montana Army National Guard.

**MONTANA'S FIRST
HELICOPTER**



**THE COLONEL'S
LAST DRILL**



OOPS!!

It seems as if we goofed on the article about the Bozeman Unit. Instead of the 1st Squadron, the context of the head should have read, HHT, 163d Armored Cavalry in Bozeman.

We have received complaints about the goof, and we apologize, but in the same breath, the only way we get any feedback on the paper is when we make a mistake. There has to be more response to our paper. We realize this, we need your help. We need information from the Guard units around the state and we are not getting it.

We make mistakes, we are human, but the biggest mistake is the lack of participation on the part of units beyond the Helena area.

What you do is important! What we can print about your unit's activities are important, not only to your unit, but to the other units around the state. This paper could be a training, recruiting and retention publication, but it is not, because we do not have enough participation from you, and that is the "Biggest Mistake of All."

The Editor

Sure there are a lot of good reasons to drive 55, but there's one thing to remember:

**It's not just
a good idea.
It's the law.**



DANCE YOUR SOCKS OFF!!! Nervis Norvis and the Nasty Nose Pickers will be performing at the Montana National Guard Service Club, 16 April 77. Advanced tickets can be purchased from any Club Director at \$1.50 per person.

Give Blood

THE BOOK

THE MONTANA MILITIA: A History of Montana's Volunteer Forces, 1867-1976, has received good reviews in several Montana newspapers. Dr. Dale Johnson of the University of Montana called it a "long-overdue history of the Montana National Guard."

He praised the work as well-written and an excellent first history of the military in Montana.

Copies of the book are still on sale through the Guard for \$3.00 -- it's \$4.95 at a book store. Send your check and order to History Fund, 103 PID, Box 1157, Helena, Mt. 59601.

Distinguished

Graduate

SFC Jerry A. Jones, AST for Co. C(-) 5th SF Bn, Missoula, was designated the Distinguished Graduate at recent graduation exercises of the Army Maintenance Management Course at Fort Lewis, WA. His citation was presented to him "for academic excellence and achievement during the course of instruction."

He was also designated an Honor Graduate of the Administrative Supply Technician Course at the National Guard Professional Education Center, Camp Robinson, Ark., at the completion of training at that course of instruction.

In addition, he recently received the Senior Parachutist Badge after completing 57 parachute jumps including numerous combat equipment and night parachute jumps in qualifying for the badge.

No Summer Issue

The MONTANA GUARD's altered format is a result of changed printing facilities. The paper is no longer prepared commercially, which accounts for not only the different style, but also the delay in publication.

During the next six months, the staff of the MONTANA GUARD will be changing facilities as well. We are preparing a building at Ft. Harrison in Helena which will include a dark room, layout facilities, and the like, giving us an opportunity combine all our production facilities under one roof.

As a result of the move, there will be no summer issue of MONTANA GUARD, and we will resume publication with the Fall issue.

Retirement

Major Orville C. (Charlie) McCartney, Commanding Officer of the 103d Public Information Detachment, retired from the Montana Army National Guard after 20 years of service.



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Cpt Gary V. Guest --
Info. Officer
1LT Mickey Nelson --
Press Officer
SFC Gary Hull --
Info. Supervisor
SSgt Richard Keller --
Editor



1Lt Tony Morrison, Det 1, Trp F, Dillon swears in New Recruits Hieght and Hildebrand at the Dillon Armory. PSG Marty Malesich looks on. The effort in Det 1, Trp F, highlights the need for all units to work on recruiting and retention.



Trp G, Hamilton, held an Open House and Community Appreciation week end in December. Here a potential recruit takes a close look at the interior of one of Trp G's tanks.

Insurance Now Available to Montana Guardsmen

A new life insurance program is being offered to all members of the Army and Air National Guard in Montana.

The group program is being sponsored by the Montana National Guard Association and is open to all Guard members, enlisted or officers. There are no restrictions for aviators or for hazardous duty.

The coverage is level term insurance through age 70 in amounts of \$5,000. The plan runs up to \$25,000 with family protection available.

There are now 100 members enrolled in the program. About one third of the Guard membership, or 700 people, are needed before the plan will begin to return any income to the Montana National Guard Association.

Premiums can be deducted through the JUMPS pay system.

Presentations will be made to all units of the Guard. An open signup season is in effect through the end of April. This is a benefit to members who have problems purchasing life insurance.

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DECEMBER

1977

TOP NCO VISITS MONTANA



Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army, William G. Bainbridge flew into Helena, November 1st, for a brief visit with the staff and members of the Montana Guard.

Bainbridge is the senior enlisted man in the Army and spends most of his time traveling to Army facilities across the United States and recording problems or suggestions of enlisted men.

The Sergeant Major is presently touring Army Readiness Regions 8 and 9 including the western United States and finished his tour in California about the middle of November.

He calls himself a sort of troubleshooter and takes problems or suggestions back to Washington, D.C., where he advises the Army Chief of Staff and other military officials. "I conduct these field visits to find out what

the challenges and problem areas are for the enlisted man," Bainbridge said. He considers it a big job because 87 percent of the Army forces are enlisted men.

While in Montana, Bainbridge listened as staff members of the Army National Guard told him that while recruitment in the Montana Guard is in good shape, the Guard is "really falling down" in retaining reservists in the Army Guard. "The ac-

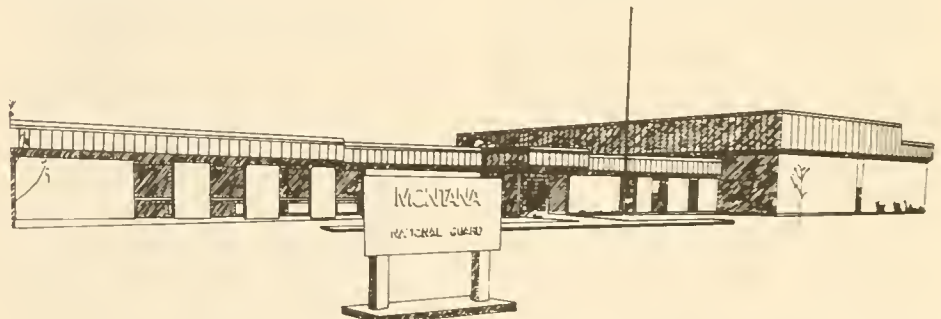
(continued on pg. 2)

NEW MISSOULA ARMORY

For the individual members of the Special Forces and Armored Cavalry units stationed in Missoula, the new home is worth more than dollars and cents. Guardsmen are unanimous in their feeling: it is a better atmosphere in which to train; better classrooms, better kitchen, just plain better facilities.

"The finest training facility in the national guard structure," Maj. Gen. John J. Womack said in describing the new Missoula Armory during dedication ceremonies November 12. Over 200 people heard the remarks and attended an open house to explore the new building and examine

(continued on pg. 2)



National Guard Armory
Missoula, Montana

TOP NCO

tive soldier fits into a grade structure," he said. "But in the reserve and guard there is a job vacancy problem and often times the grade and pay scale may not fit the reservist. There are just so many spaces available" Bainbridge said, and added that because of Montana's geography and limited number of positions, it is unrealistic for an enlisted reserve person to change units, for example from Helena to Missoula.

Bainbridge added, "The key to retaining reserve guard personnel is good training." There are several pressing issues which face today's Army. Maintaining and acquiring the latest equipment and weapons systems is another big concern.

He also added maintaining a high quality level of training to make sure Army forces are able to deploy successfully is extremely important. Bainbridge says today's volunteer army is successful and the ranks are receiving highly qualified men.

SPACE AVAILABLE

Reserve Component members are now eligible for space-available flights year-round within the continental U.S. (CONUS), as well as between CONUS and Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands or Guam. Seats are assigned on a priority basis. Flights are free, except for a \$3 tax and a \$2 surcharge.

Members must wear the in season class A uniform during flights. Documentation includes a current I.D. card (DD Form 2, Red) and a DD Form 1853 signed by the traveler's unit commander. For details contact your unit AST or State Headquarters in Helena.

NEW ARMORY

equipment displays.

Inside the one-story brick structure visitors from throughout western Montana viewed exhibits of engineering equipment, rafts, and scuba gear. A video display offered a glimpse of guard life and training while a display of army uniforms from 1876 through the 1900's offered a unique view of the military past.

A variety of weapons also captured the attention of guests. Young and old alike examined mortars, machine guns, ground-to-air missile launchers, tanks, and armored personnel carriers.

Over twenty years in coming, the new facilities for Missoula's units were completed in May, 1977. The new armory replaces two older wooden, temporary buildings constructed by the CCC which the National Guard had occupied since 1947.

The new armory houses several separate units including Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 6th Special Forces Battalion and Company C (-), 5th Special Forces Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group. Also sharing the building are two units from the 2nd Squadron, 163d Armored Cavalry Regiment: Howitzer Battery, and Troop G (-).

Total cost of the building was \$763,897 with federal funds accounting for three-quarters of the cost, \$553,455 and state funds making up the balance, \$210,442. Land for the 26,000 square-foot site was part of the Fort Missoula complex and was donated for the purpose by the Missoula County Commissioners.

The new building also promises to bolster retention and recruitment, and facilitate carrying out the mission of the affected units.

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MG JOHN J. WOMACK
ADJUTANT GENERAL
CPT ED CANTY
INFO OFFICER
MSG WALTER CONELL
INFO SUPERVISOR
SSG DAVID DREHER
EDITOR

A LITTLE FATTER

Effective 1 October, 1977 your paycheck was a little fatter, thanks to an overall 7.05 percent pay increase. According to the order signed by President Carter, 6.2 percent of the raise is in the basic salary, the remainder coming in a higher quarters allowance.

For an E-5, with six years in the National Guard, a weekend drill prior to 1 October brought home a \$79.28 check. Under the new pay plan, the pay slip will read \$84.20 for an average weekend.

Including BAQ allowances, the annual increase will total over \$85.00. Taken together, the new pay scale and BAQ allowances help the Guard continue as one of the best part-time job opportunities around, providing not only additional income, but also a chance to serve your country.

FIVE AWARDED ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL



ARMSTRONG

FINSTAD

NELSON

TILLO

TRACY

An awards presentation honoring five Montana Guard members for their outstanding and meritorious service was held December 4, 1977 at the Social Rehabilitation Services (SRS) Building here. The awards were made by Major General John J. Womack, Adjutant General.

ARMSTRONG

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOEL R. ARMSTRONG, Detachment 1, HQ and HQ Troop 163d Armored Cavalry, distinguished himself by meritorious service while attached as a medical aidman to Troop L, 3d Squadron, 163d Armored Cavalry during Annual Training, 10-18 September 1977, at Fort Irwin. He took complete charge of evacuating an injured soldier by helicopter. His subsequent good condition is directly due to the care and professional handling of the situation. Pvt. Armstrong reflects great credit upon himself, the United States Army and the Montana Army National Guard.

FINSTAD

Since becoming a crew-member in April 1963 PLATOON SERGEANT EDWARD L. FINSTAD, Troop N(Air) (-) Armored Cavalry, has flown over 1100 hours over a period of 14 years without being involved in a flying accident and has earned the

wings of a Senior Crewman. His many hours of outstanding service and his accident free flying record are most commendable. PSG Finstad has served the Montana Army National Guard with great distinction and reflects great credit upon himself, Army aviation and the Montana National Guard.

NELSON

CW2 MYRON K. NELSON, JR., Detachment 1, Troop N (Air) 163d Armored Cavalry, has served the Montana Army National Guard with great distinction, reflecting great credit upon himself, Army Aviation and the Montana Army National Guard. Since becoming an aviator in January 1967, he has flown over 2200 hours over the last ten years without a flying accident and has earned the wings of a Senior Aviator. His many hours of outstanding service and his excellent accident free flying record are most commendable.

TILLO

During his lengthy tour as First Sergeant for Trp N (Air) 163d Armd Cav, SERGEANT MAJOR FRANK RAYMOND TILLO, displayed exemplary conduct and appearance for all members of the unit to emulate. Especially noteworthy were the many extra

hours he devoted to meticulously monitoring attendance, arranging equivalent training for members who had to miss drills and then supervising, frequently on his own time, the training individuals received during equivalent training. His concerns were for the betterment of the personnel, which played a key factor in Troop N Becoming the first Army National Guard Cavalry Troop to pass an Army Training Test. Sgt. Maj. Tillo's long and devoted service is most commendable and reflects great credit upon his uniform, the Montana Army National Guard, his unit, and himself.

TRACY

During the preceding 10 years, MAJOR GORDON M. TRACY State HQ and HQ Detachment, MT ARNG, has flown over 1300 hours without a flying accident and has earned the wings of a Senior Aviator. Since April 1967, Maj. Tracy has served the Montana Army National Guard with great distinction. His many hours of outstanding service and his accident free flying record are excellent. Maj. Tracy reflects great credit upon himself, Army aviation and the Montana Army National Guard.

FIRST SQUADRON

DESERT VACATION

On March 12th, 1st Squadron arrived at Fort Irwin, California, for 2 weeks of annual training. Fort Irwin was originally a regular Army post but is now occupied by the California National Guard commanded by LTC Taylor.

Montana Guard members were immediately pleased with the assistance of the California National Guard and the capabilities of the Chinook helicopter piloted by CPT Dare and WO3 Hewton. This chopper was able to carry 33 personnel, two jeeps, or three small trailers at one time. Seasonally dry Bicycle Lake was used as a landing field by support units from Troop N Air. The lake is located about a mile north of the main camp.

The weekend was spent by many members at Las Vegas or Los Angeles. Some visited nearby towns while others spent time enjoying the surrounding Death Valley Desert.

A bus service from Fort Irwin to Barstow, California, was maintained by guard members from Helena Units.

Visiting dignitaries including LT General Flannigan from the 6th Army HQ and our Adjutant General Womack and Brigadier General Thode.

Snakes and lizards of many varieties were plentiful. Desert flowers were in bloom and rendered the desert quite pleasant with shades of yellow, blue, purple, and white against the beige sand hills.

Montana Guard members enjoyed very adequate firing ranges for their tanks, HOW Batteries and LAW missile launchers. HOW Batteries were able to show their excellence with very accurate firing from their 155s. Old metal hulks were destroyed when they were struck with AT rounds. Maintenance was very important because of a fine sand that blows over the desert and gets into everything.



PITCHING IN

SFC Piersky and SP5 Thompson (bottom left) worked on gun mechanical problems, while SSG Vanek worked with field radios to maintain communications between the field and the main camp for the 1st Squadron Units.



COLLEGE CREDIT

As part of the "Get Your Guard Up" recruiting campaign, students with at least two years of college without prior military service may enlist in the Army National Guard as privates first class rather than as E-1 privates.

Students with three years of college may be promoted to E-4 upon completing six months service and those with four years credit can be elevated to E-4 with just four months service.



NEW GENERAL

Col. Philip W. Strobe, Helena, of the Air National Guard has become Brigadier General Strobe. The promotion became effective November 2nd.

General Strobe's promotion is unique in that he is the first non-World War II veteran and Air Guardsmen to attain that rank. What opened the door? Advanced military education, says Strobe.

He is enthusiastic in discussing this subject and actively encourages junior officers to pursue their education opportunities to the maximum.

General Strobe began his military career in 1951 as a supply officer. In 1952 he graduated as a Fighter Pilot flying F94A with the 318th Fighter Interceptor Squadron until his release from active duty.

He joined the Montana Air Guard in 1955 and has served as Flight Commander, Acting Squadron CO., Group Director of Air Operation, and Air Operations Officer on the State Staff. He was twice President of the Montana National Guard Association. His new job is Chief of Staff at the Montana Air National Guard.

Several unique opportunities and benefits have come his way as a direct result of his training and newly acquired rank. In the process of becoming qualified, General Strobe earned a Master of Arts Degree in International Relations at the Air War College. He also enjoys the association and friendships of many of his classmates who now head major commands both in and outside CONUS.

YOU NAME IT

Montana Guardsmen. Montana Guard. The state Guard's newspaper has appeared for many years under one of those titles. The time to change the name to something which better reflects the composition and mission of the 163d AC is at hand. The staff of the newspaper is open to suggestions; in fact we solicit your ideas.

In short, we are having a statewide contest among Guard members to select a new title for the newspaper. We have thought of several potential prizes: a no-expense paid trip to Hawaii!!!; two all-expense paid weeks at Camp Irwin; the barracks of your choice at Gowen Field; or, perhaps, extra starch in your best set of fatigues. Whatever the reward, we would

like to have your input.

The title should reflect the armored cavalry nature of the Montana Guard and its supporting units, the citizen soldier concept, or the broad mission of the modern army. Space limitations restrict suggestions to one or two words -- probably no more than 20 to 25 letters and spaces.

One thing is certain the Guard member suggesting the winning name will receive credit, picture and story, (and our thanks.) Please send suggestions to the 103d Public Affairs Detachment, P.O. Box 4789, Helena, MT 59601. Include your name, and rank and the unit of which you are attached. We will look forward to hearing from you -- and, again, thanks.

NOW YOU SEE IT NOW YOU DON'T

Washington -- Secretary of Defense Harold Brown announced November 14 that the Department of the Army will proceed with a congressionally approved 5 million dollar reenlistment bonus test to be conducted within the U.S. Army Guard and Reserve. The test is scheduled to begin on January 1, 1978 and terminate September 30, 1978.

The Army National Guard and the Army Reserve were selected for the test because of the severity of manpower shortages in the two components. The results obtained through the Army test will be relevant to the other reserve components as to the effectiveness of the bonus in alleviating the reenlistment problem. The Secretary of Defense stressed that the reenlistment bonus is not a reward or additional payment for past service. It is a test designed to determine if a bonus will attract selected

reenlistments where manpower is short. This is the first bonus incentive offered to Guard and Reserve Units.

Qualifying Guardsmen and Reservists in the test units whose current enlistments expire during calendar year 1978 stand to get a maximum bonus of \$1800 for agreeing to stay on for an additional six years. The bonus consists of either a lump sum of \$900 on the date of reenlistment for six years and subsequent annual payments of \$150 upon completion of each year of satisfactory service. Both programs have pay-back provisions for those who fail to meet minimum performance standards established by the services.

Montana units are not included in this bonus test but the North Dakota National Guard is. All in all, it looks like a Congressional North Dakota joke.

A NEW PAD



Double entendre aside the 103d experienced two changes in recent months. Officially our designation has changed from PID -- for Public Information Detachment -- to Public Affairs Detachment reflecting a broader mission

for the unit.

Under our reorganization, an individual from our section will be assigned to each unit, and he will be working more closely with the information specialists in each unit throughout the state,

this should mean better coverage of what your outfit is doing. With the start of the new administrative year 1 October, we will be contacting these representatives and working out plans for more complete statewide reporting.

A second change will ultimately make the PAD more efficient and effective in this operation. The unit is in the process of moving out of the Helena Armory and in to new quarters at Fort William H. Harrison, west of town. It will be several more months before the entire facility is operational.

A final word about the PAD and the Montana Guard -- one thing has not changed, and that is the fact that we need news. Newspapers have a system of "Stingers" -- individuals in the field who report back to the paper. This is what the Montana Guard has in the information specialists from each unit, and in each guard member. We need good black and white glossy photographs of what your unit is doing, and details about your activities. If you will give us the details, we will write the story.

Oh, and when you are in Helena -- visit our new PAD.

SKIING

Biathlon is fast becoming winter's most active sport. It provides the chance to combine cross-country skiing with small-bore rifle shooting. The Montana National Guard Biathlon Program allows you to compete with, and against, other guardsmen and women in cross-country skiing and target shooting at some excellent courses: Essex, Red Lodge, and Lubrecht Forest.

To qualify for biathlon competition you must be in excellent physical condition to ski over long distances and varied terrain. You must be an average or better .22 caliber rifle shooter and have your own civilian skis, boots, and poles. Competition rifles and .22 caliber ammunition are available through your unit or the State Biathlon Coordinator.

Competition matches are being held on weekends during

this period to be in contention for the official Montana National Guard team that will compete in the National Guard Championships in Minnesota, 4-11 February, 1978.

Your status during participation at official weekend clinics or matches will be either ET, ATA, FTTD, or "on your own time." That status will be determined by your giving the biathlon coordinator maximum advance notice of your willingness to participate in the program.

If you want to participate in biathlon, contact the Biathlon Coordinator ASAP, either by letter or phone: Biathlon, 2501 Reserve, Missoula MT, 59801; 549-8861, or state line 125-4952.

This is an opportunity for competition that shouldn't be missed by any Montana Guard member.

